



HHSS Spring & Summer
Reading Guide 2025

welcome, readers!

As another school year is coming to an end you may be looking for a source of distraction from academics. Perhaps this spring and summer will find you relaxing at home, perhaps on a lounge chair poolside or at the beach, enjoying some time with sand between your toes or somewhere else entirely - it is time to immerse yourself in some serious, and hopefully fun, summer reading!

Living in southwestern Ontario, we find ourselves moving into warmer weather - a shift away from routine and hopefully time to relax. I look forward to the changes that come with the summer months as it offers time to catch up on reading and indulge in some frivolous reading selections.

Your reading life should bring you joy, happiness and an eagerness to share your love of reading. There are so many amazing books which have been published in recent years that it is truly a daunting task to make reading choices. Hopefully, this summer reading guide will offer you ideas to return to a vibrant and enjoyable life with reading taking centre stage.

As a teacher-librarian it is always enjoyable to see what books are being requested in person, as well as trends that are occurring on platforms such as #BookTok and #Bookstagram.

Hopefully, the categories highlighted in this guide will have selections that will pique your interest while encouraging some genres that perhaps you would not ordinarily select. Follow what you feel about a book - follow your innate instincts.

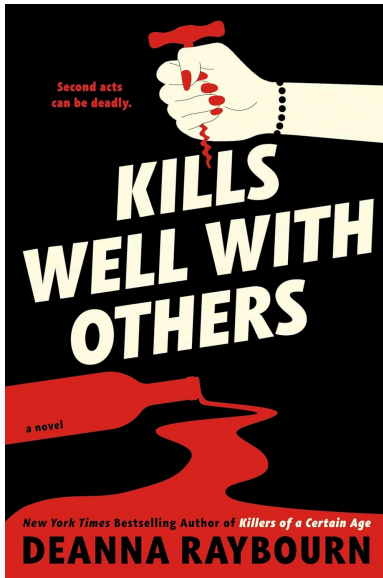
Reading Philosophy

Reading is a very personal activity. In many cases the timing of reading is everything. A plethora of good books exist and are being published regularly. Hopefully selections throughout this guide will offer you encouragement in your reading life.

The best advice to you - the reader - is to know what you need as a reader. Stay with your own tastes with a selection or two outside of your comfort zone to determine what you need right now. You are encouraged to "play" with genres that you would not normally gravitate to. Not sure about what you prefer as a reader? Track what you read noting the genre of the books you have been reading as you go.

As the summer progresses, tag the HHSS library on social media (Instagram @hhsslibrary; Twitter @HHSS_Library) to share your selections.

Mystery and Thriller



KILLS WELL WITH OTHERS, Deanna Raybourn

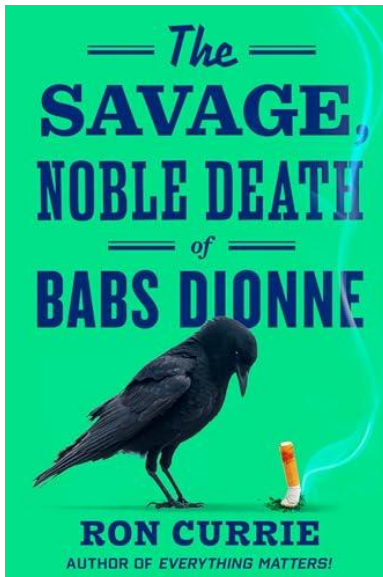
BERKLEY, 2025

TAGS: Thrillers - suspense; Thrillers - espionage; Women

ALL THE OTHER MOTHERS HATE ME, Sarah Harman

G P PUTNAM'S SONS, 2025

TAGS: Thrillers - suspense; Women; Humorous



THE SAVAGE NOBLE DEATH OF BABS DIONNE, Ron Currie

PENGUIN PUBLISHING GROUP, 2025

TAGS: Thrillers - crime; Crime; Women



THE RIVALS, Jane Pek

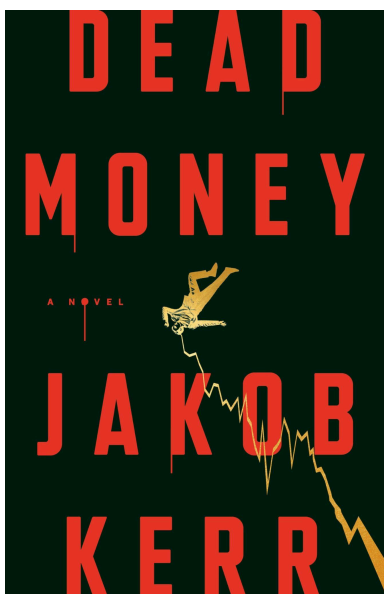
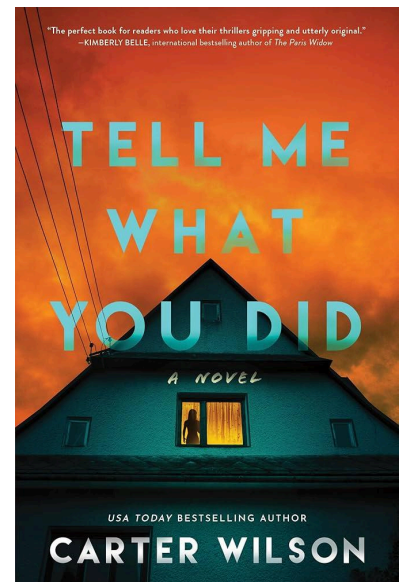
VINTAGE, 2024

TAGS: Mystery & Detective - Amateur Sleuth; LGBTQ+ - Lesbian; Asian American and Pacific Islander

TELL ME WHAT YOU DID, Carter Wilson

POISONED PEN PRESS, 2025

TAGS: Thrillers - Suspense; Thrillers - Crime; Crime

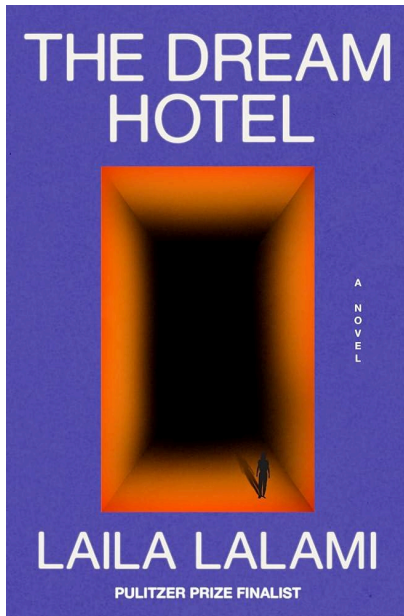


DEAD MONEY, Jakob Kerr

BANTAM, 2025

TAGS: Thrillers - Crime; Mystery & Detective - Private Investigators; Thrillers - Suspense

Dystopian Fiction



THE DREAM HOTEL, Laila Lalami

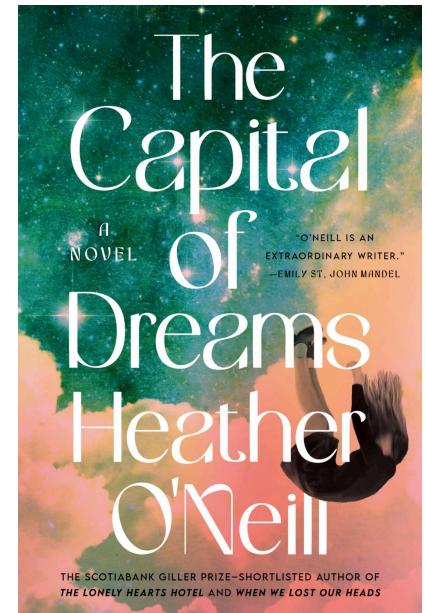
PANTHEON, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Dystopian; Political

THE CAPITAL OF DREAMS, Heather O'Neill

HARPER, 2025

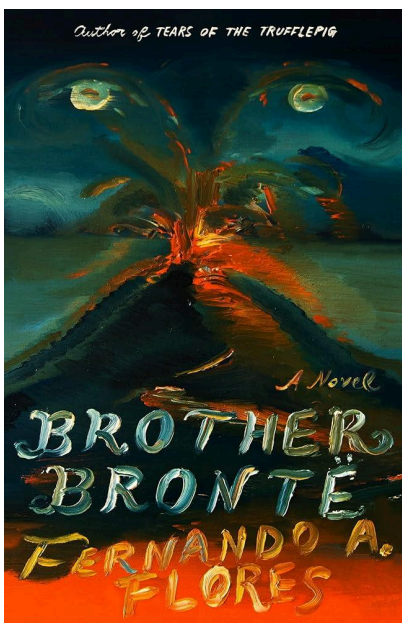
TAGS: Fiction; Historical - 20th Century; Women; Literary

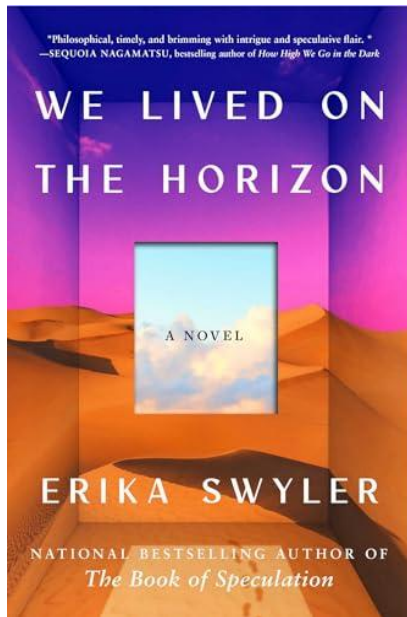


BROTHER BRONTË, Fernando A. Flores

FARRAR STRAUS & GIROUX, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Hispanic & Latino - Science Fiction





WE LIVED ON THE HORIZON, Erika Swyler

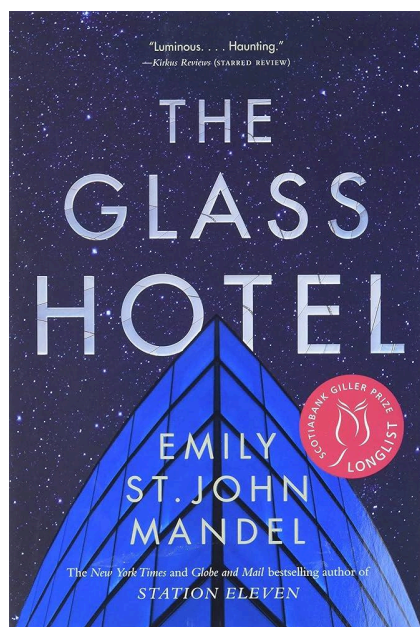
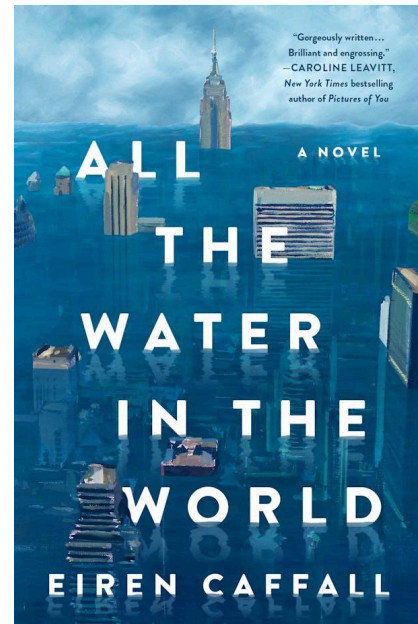
ATRIA BOOKS, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Dystopian; Science Fiction - Apocalyptic and Post-Apocalyptic; Literary

ALL THE WATER IN THE WORLD, Eiren Caffall

ST MARTIN'S PRESS, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Dystopian; Science Fiction - Apocalyptic and Post-Apocalyptic; Thrillers



THE GLASS HOTEL, Emily St John Mandel

HARPERCOLLINS, 2023

TAGS: Fiction; Dystopian; Literary; Psychological

Historical Fiction



33 PLACE BRUGMANN, Alice Austen

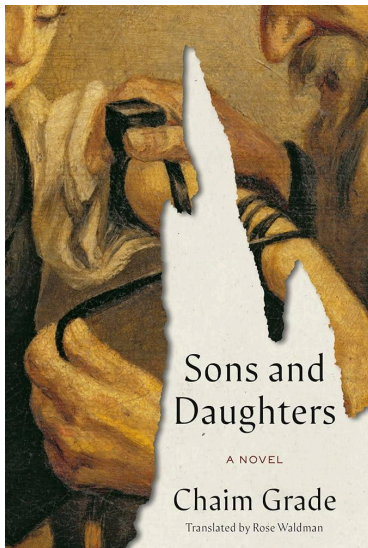
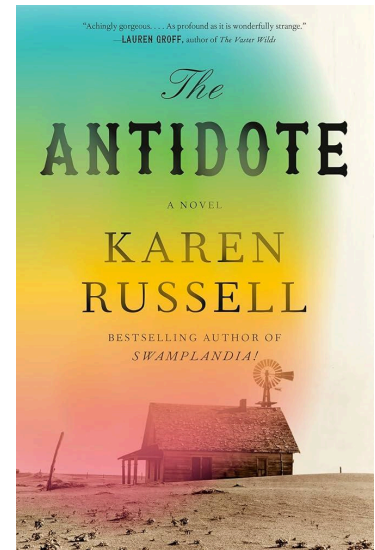
GROVE PRESS, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Historical - 20th Century;
Historical - World War 2; Historical - Holocaust; Family Life

THE ANTIDOTE, Karen Russell

KNOFF, 2025

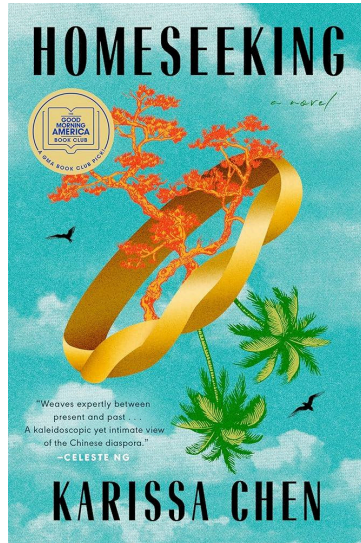
TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Visionary & Metaphysical;
Historical - 20th Century



SONS AND DAUGHTERS, Chaim Grade

KNOFF, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Jewish; Family Life



HOMESSEEKING, Karissa Chen

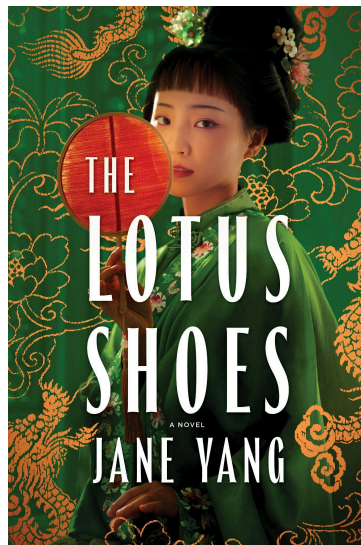
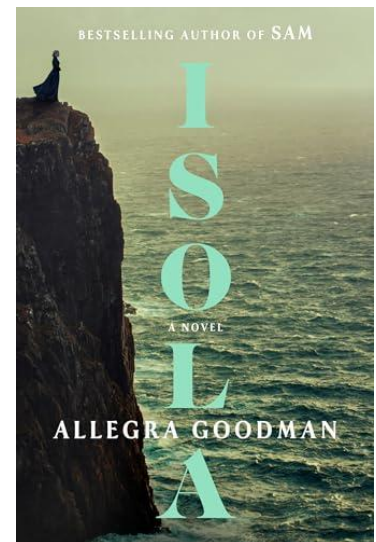
G P PUTNAM'S SONS, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Romance; Asian American & Pacific Islander

ISOLA, Allegra Goodman

THE DIAL PRESS, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Literary; Historical - Renaissance; Women



THE LOTUS SHOES, Jane Yang

HARPER AVENUE, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; World Literature - China, 19th Century; Historical; Women

Refresh Your Reading Life

1. Don't finish every book you start
2. Track what you read
3. Try a new format (eBook, audiobook)
4. Switch up the time you read
5. Read in a new location
6. Join a reading challenge

Reading BINGO

B	I	N	G	O
Debut author	Happy ending	Trans protagonist	Magical realism	Literary fiction
Fake dating	Memoir	Fluffy / cute	Tragedy	Enemies to lovers
Forced proximity	Theatre	Free  space	Small town	Poetry
Romance	Independent publisher	Translated book	A sequel	A book by a local author
Steampunk	Mystery	Politics	Historical fiction	Friends to lovers

useful Book Related Links

Take a look at the links provided below for some ideas as to what you may consider reading next!!

HHSS Library: Take a moment to visit the HHSS library website at hrh.wrdsb.ca/library to see new additions to our collection.

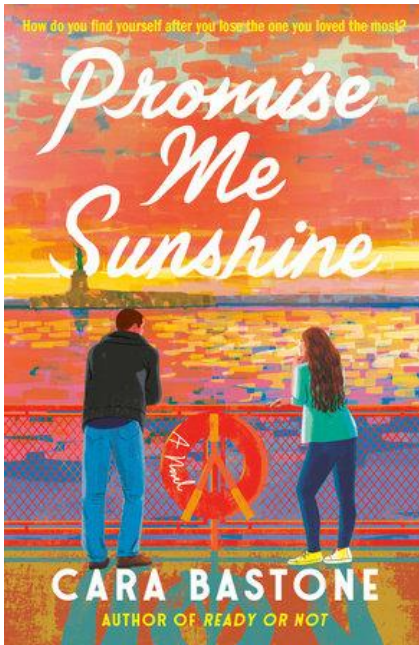
Goodreads: This is a great resource for finding your next read. Check out goodreads.com

Public Libraries: Visiting your local branch of a library is another fantastic spot for book browsing. Check out kpl.org for the Kitchener Public Library; wpl.ca for the Waterloo Public Library OR ideaexchange.org for the Cambridge Library.

Modern Mrs Darcy: This is truly a delightful site for many things book related. Visit modernmrsdarcy.com for a variety of book type ideas and suggestions.

Book Browse: This site offers suggestions of newly released books, book club options and so much more. Visit bookbrowse.com for a variety of book related themes and suggestions.

Romance



PROMISE ME SUNSHINE, Cara Bastone

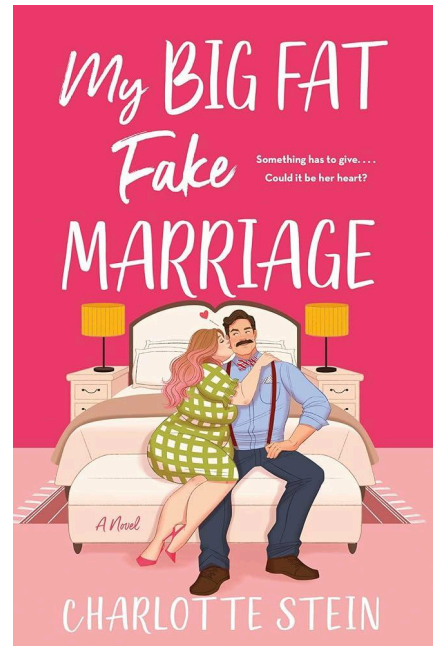
RANDOM HOUSE PUBLISHING GROUP, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Romance - Contemporary; Romance - Romantic Comedy; Women

MY BIG FAT FAKE MARRIAGE, Charlotte Stein

ST MARTIN'S PRESS, 2025

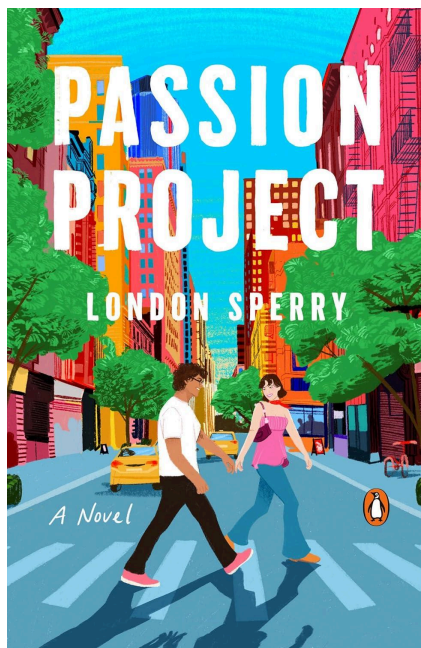
TAGS: Fiction; Romance - Romantic Comedy; Romance - Contemporary



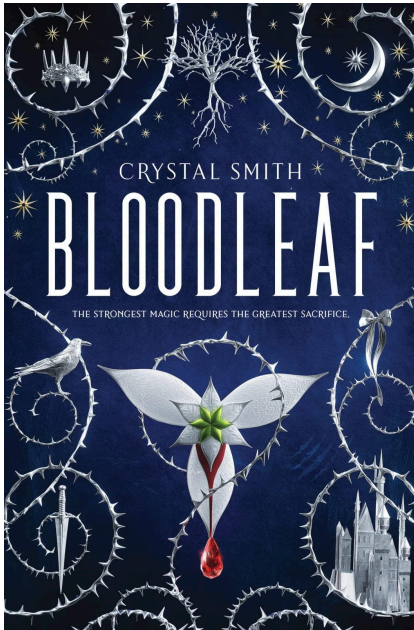
PASSION PROJECT, London Sperry

PENGUIN PUBLISHING GROUP, 2025

TAGS: Fiction; Romance - Contemporary; Romance - Romantic Comedy; Women



First In a Series



BLOODLEAF, Crystal Smith

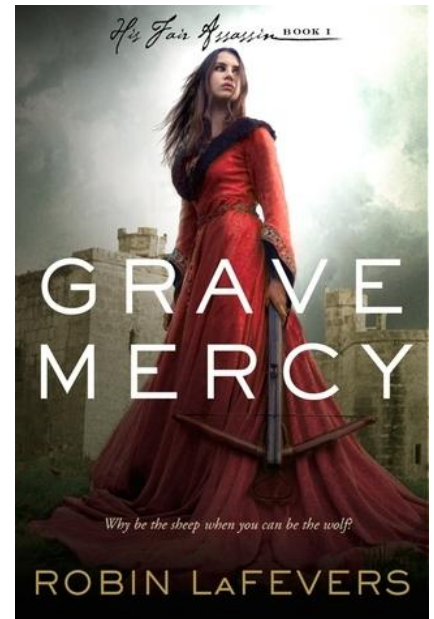
HARPERCOLLINS, 2019

TAGS: YA Fiction; Fantasy - Epic; Fantasy - Dark
Fantasy; Fairy Tales & Folklore - Adaptations

GRAVE MERCY, Robin LaFevers

HARPER COLLINS, 2021

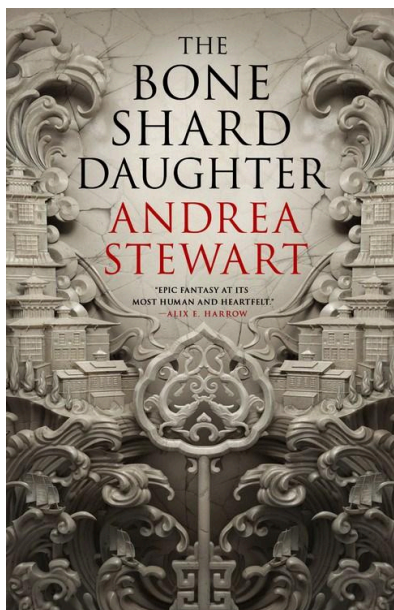
TAGS: YA Fiction; Action and Adventure; Fantasy;
Romance

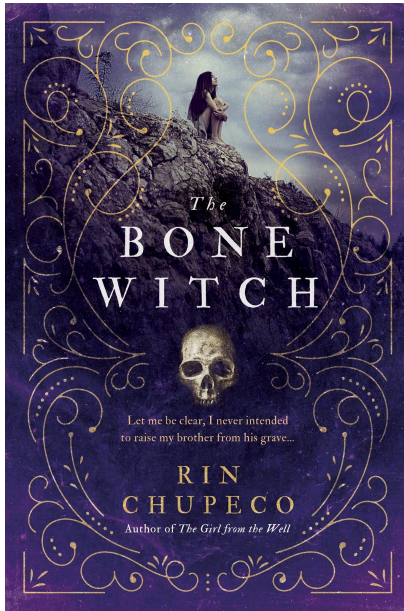


THE BONE SHARD DAUGHTER, Andrea Stewart

ORBIT, 2021

TAGS: Fiction; Fantasy - Action & Adventure; Fantasy -
Dragons & Mythical Creatures; Fantasy - Epic





THE BONE WITCH, Rin Chupeco

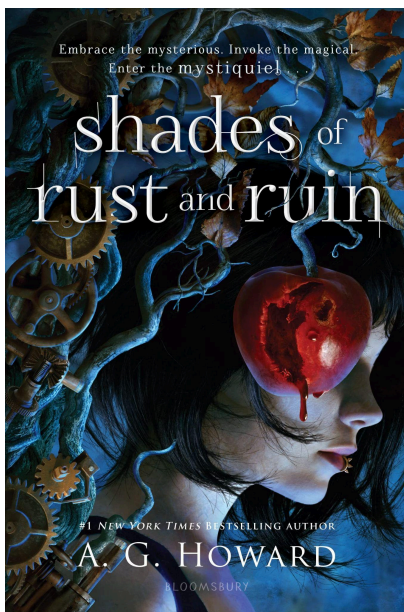
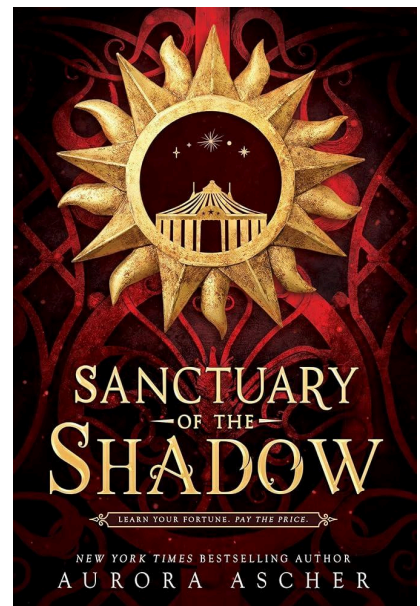
SOURCEBOOKS, 2018

TAGS: YA Fiction; Fantasy - Wizards & Witches; Action & Adventure; Paranormal, Occult & Supernatural

SANCTUARY OF THE SHADOW, Aurora Ascher

ENTANGLED PUBLISHING, 2024

TAGS: Fiction; Fantasy - Romance; Romance - Fantasy; Fantasy - Epic



SHADES OF RUST AND RUIN, A G Howard

BLOOMSBURY, 2024

TAGS: YA Fiction; Fantasy - Contemporary; Family - Siblings; Steampunk

Audiobooks You Can Listen to In a Day

***SOUTHERN LADY CODE* (Helen Ellis; read by Helen Ellis) - 3 hours 12 minutes**

Enter the hilarious and inventive mind of Helen Ellis. The bestselling author of *American Housewife* teaches listeners her technique by which, if you don't have something nice to say, you say something not so nice...in a nice way. While listening, you'll encounter her thoughts on marriage and manners, thank-you notes and three-ways, ghosts, gynecology, and the monogrammed art of living as a Southern Lady.

***EXIT WEST* (Mohsin Hamid; read by Mohsin Hamid) - 4 hours 42 minutes**

Exit West is a visionary love story written and read by Mohsin Hamid. In a country on the brink of civil war, Nadia and Saeed meet and embark on a passionate love affair. But when violence breaks out in the streets, the neighborhood they once intimately knew is left unrecognizable and they must decide if they will stay, or leave their homeland behind.

***MY SISTER, THE SERIAL KILLER* (Oyinkan Braithwaite; read by Adepero Oduye) - 4 hours 15 minutes**

A short, darkly funny, hand grenade of a novel about a Nigerian woman whose younger sister has a very inconvenient habit of killing her boyfriends. Sharp as nails and full of deadpan wit, Oyinkan Braithwaite's deliciously deadly debut is as fun as it is frightening.

***MEATY* (Samantha Irby; read by Samantha Irby) - 7 hours 40 minutes**

Samantha Irby laughs her way through tragicomic mishaps, neuroses, and taboos as she struggles through adulthood: chin hairs, depression, bad sex, failed relationships, masturbation, taco feasts, inflammatory bowel disease and more. This much-beloved romp is a treat for anyone in dire need of Irby's infamous, scathing wit and poignant candor.

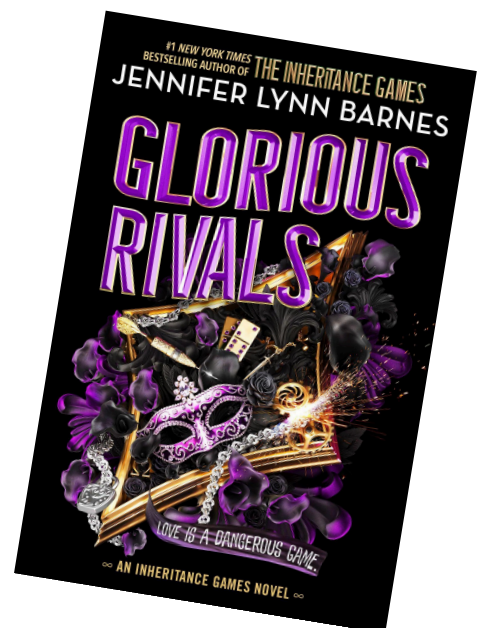
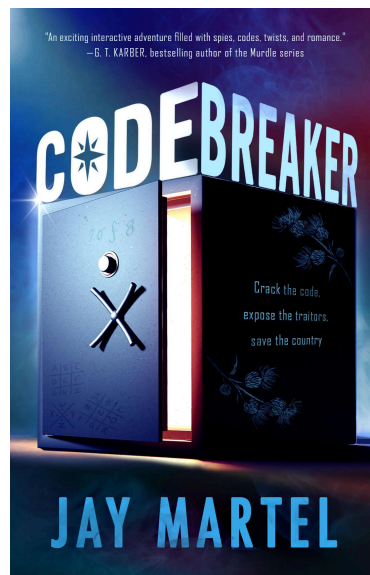
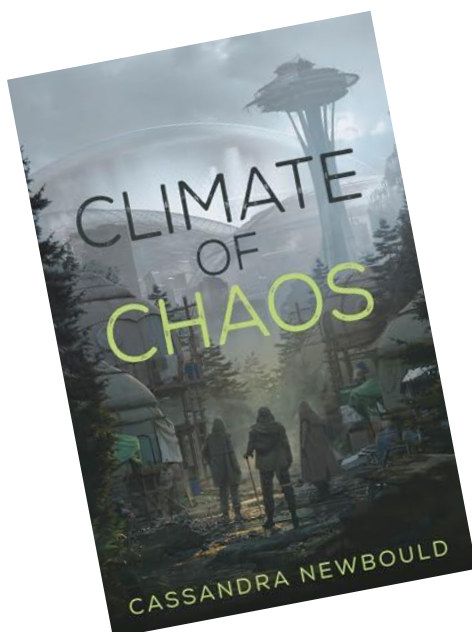
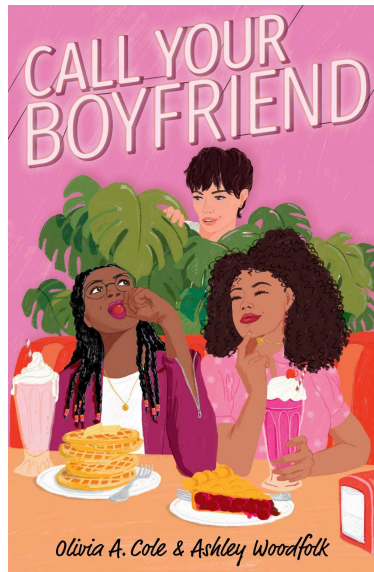
***BROTHER AND SISTER* (Diane Keaton; read by Diane Keaton) - 4 hours 30 minutes**

In this deeply personal book, written and read by the beloved actress Diane Keaton, Keaton explores the bonds between siblings. Growing up, she and her brother Randy were best friends, spending all of their time together. But as Randy grew older, he became more and more reclusive. Here Keaton contemplates the inner workings of a family, the ties that hold it together, and the special bond between siblings even when they are pulled far apart.

***RED AT THE BONE* (Jacqueline Woodson; read by Jacqueline Woodson, Quincy Tyler Bernstine, Peter Francis James, Shayna Small and Bahni Turpin) - 3 hours 53 minutes**

Two families from different social classes are joined together by an unexpected pregnancy and the child that it produces. Moving forward and backward in time, with the power of poetry and the emotional richness of a narrative ten times its length, Jacqueline Woodson's extraordinary novel uncovers the role that history and community have played in the experiences, decisions, and relationships of these families, and in the life of this child.

Summer Releases



NOTES

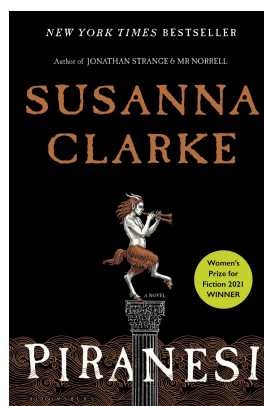
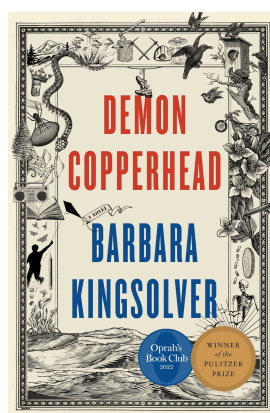
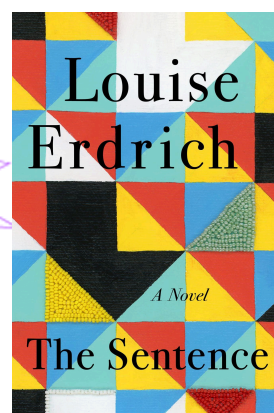
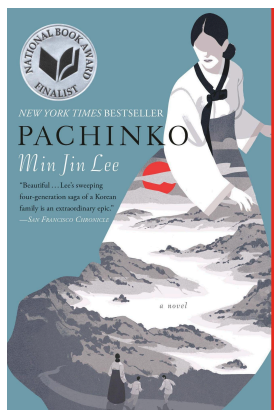
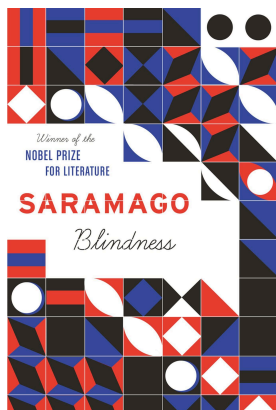
My To Be Read List

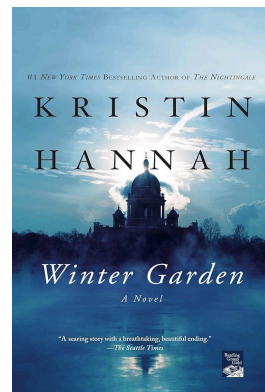
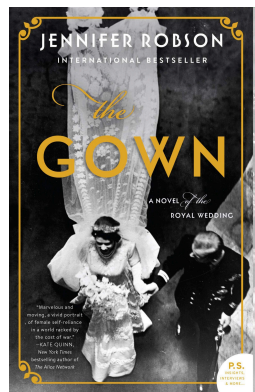
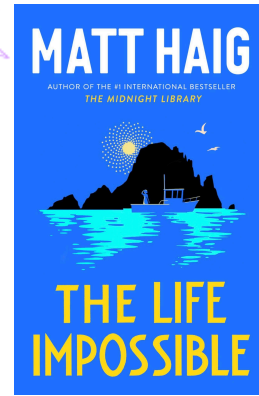
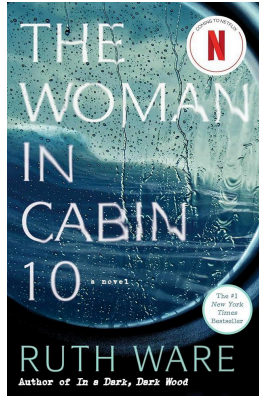
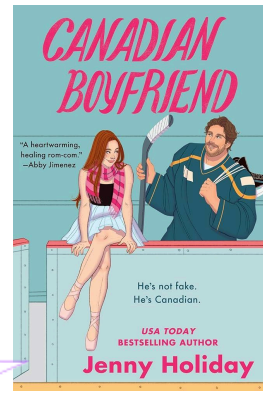
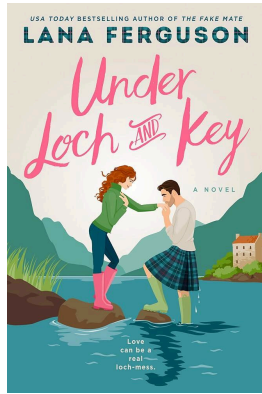
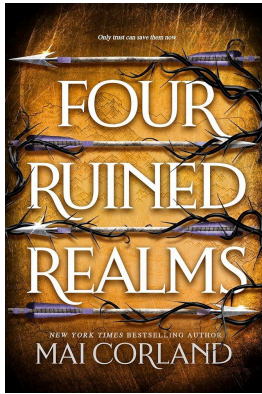
A healthy To Be Read list will assist you in never being left looking for the next book to read. You are encouraged to not only include the title and author, but also why you have chosen the title.

Book Title	Author	why

Staff Member Recommendations

various members of the staff at HHSS have selected a few books that they would recommend.





Literary Festivals to Look For

More literary festivals are back to having in person opportunities. Check out the list below with the possibility that you could attend one (or multiple) of these events in the upcoming year. Many authors will attend these festivals with their most recent releases - maybe you would enjoy curating your own collection of authored books!!

Eden Mills Writers Festival

This wonderful festival is taking place in Eden Mills just outside of Guelph. Keep an eye on their website as the organizers will post information for the 2025 festival. The format is very informal and multiple authors will be providing insight into their writing process, reading from their most recent publication and so much more.

GritLit

GritLit is a four day event held in downtown Hamilton. Participants can attend writing master classes, author readings and so much more. Keep an eye on their website for 2025 dates and author events!!

Toronto International Festival of Authors

This multi day event is held in the Harbourfront area of Toronto with various events taking place in September and usually early June. Many author events take place with the opportunity to obtain an autographed copy of the author's most recent work.

Toronto Comic Arts Festival

If manga, comics and / or graphic novels are of interest to you, check out this festival taking place June 7 and 8, 2025. The event this year will be held at Toronto Metropolitan University's Mattamy Athletic Centre. A plethora of vendors will be available if you are looking to expand your personal library.

Useful Links For You

There are a number of useful links for the library at Huron Heights Secondary School. These can be useful for doing research, finding that next fantastic read and so much more!!



[Catalogue](#) for the WRDSB



HHSS [Library](#) website



HHSS Library X Account



HHSS Library Insta

Reading Journal

Title & Author		Thoughts & Summary	
Details			
Genre			
Recommended by			
Pages			
Start Date			
End Date			
My Rating			

YA Books Being Published Summer 2025

Take a sneak peek at books that are expected to be released over the spring or summer this year.

Title	Author	Release Date
All we Lost was Everything	Sloan Harlow	May 6, 2025
You and Me on Repeat	Henry Holt	May 6, 2025
Up In Smoke	Nick Brooks	May 6, 2025
The Survivor wants to Die at the End	Adam Silvera	May 6, 2025
A Mastery of Monsters	Liselle Sambury	June 3, 2025
Dan in Green Gables	Rey Terciero & Claudia Aguirre	June 3, 2025
The Protegee	Erica Ridley	June 10, 2025
The Blood Phoenix	Amber Chen	June 10, 2025
The Grove	Brooks whitney Philips	June 10, 2025
Fateless	Julie Kagawa	July 15, 2025
Hit Me with Your Best Charm	Lillie vale	July 15, 2025
Love At Full Tilt	Jenny L Howe	July 22, 2025
Soul of Shadow	Emma Noyes	July 29, 2025
Girls of Dark Divine	E v woods	August 5, 2025
A Beautiful and Terrible Murder	Claire M Andrews	August 5, 2025

Title	Author	Release Date
For Now, Not Forever	C w Farnsworth	August 5, 2025
woven From Clay	Jenny Birch	August 12, 2025
Marisol Acts the Part	Elle Gonzalez Rose	August 12, 2025
Leaving the Station	Jake Maia Arlow	August 19, 2025
All the Tomorrows After	Joanne Yi	August 19, 2025

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